

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20353

The Idaho Video Service Act, set forth in this proposal, establishes a streamlined statewide process that will enable providers of video service to receive a certificate of franchise authority to provide such service from the Idaho Secretary of State. Currently, there is no state law - only federal law - which provides a method of obtaining franchises for the provision of video service within the state. The franchise issued by the Secretary of State will authorize applicants to provide video service within the state and to access public rights of way necessary to provide a video service network, subject to local control and regulation of the use and maintenance of such rights of way by the video service provider. The Act provides for equality of treatment and technological neutrality between incumbent cable service providers and new video service providers. The Act continues the right of cities and counties to receive video franchise fees from incumbent and new video service providers, and continues the authority for cities and counties to receive the benefit of dedicated video channels for public, educational and governmental use.

FISCAL NOTE

The legislation provides for substantial filing fees believed to be sufficient to reimburse the Secretary of State for necessary costs of service pursuant the Act. No negative fiscal impact is projected.

Contact:

Name: Ed Lodge/Bill Roden

Office: 385-2154

Phone: (208) 850-4576